

75-18

3 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Principals of Ad Hoc Coordinating Group on Congressional Review

SUBJECT : Fifth Meeting (27 February 1975) of the Ad Hoc Group on Congressional Review of the Intelligence Community

1. The Ad Hoc Group met at 1500 hours in the DCI Conference Room.*

25X1A 2. [redacted] advised the Group of the initial meeting of Senator Church, Chairman of the Senate Select Committee and Senator Tower, Vice Chairman with Mr. Colby, DCI and [redacted] on 27 February. Senator Church affirmed the Committee's positive approach to its review and expressed appreciation for the security guidelines provided earlier. He stated the physical security requirements would be carried out to the letter, that each Staff employee had been advised that strict security was a condition of employment and that some form of secrecy agreement would be required of Staff employees. He assured Mr. Colby that care would be taken to avoid improper or inadvertent disclosures in public statements by Staff or Committee members and advised that no Staff member is authorized to deal with the Press. He noted that the behavior of the Senators was a matter over which the Chairman had no direct control but assured the Director that all of the Committee looked upon this task with great seriousness. He advised that Mr. F. Schwarz, III, has been selected as the General Counsel for the Committee. (Mr. Cregar of the FBI reported that Staff clearances at the "Q" level are currently being processed. It is anticipated these will be completed by 7 March.)

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* See list of attendees attached

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3. Senator Church indicated his intent to see President Ford to solicit full support to his inquiry. He also plans to see Vice President Rockefeller and request the material which has been presented to the Presidential Commission to date with the objective of avoiding retracing steps and hopefully completing the Committee's work by early fall. The Committee will wish to go fully into "Covert Action" over the years.

4. Senator Church requested that intelligence employees be freed from Secrecy Agreement restraints in order that they might respond fully to any questions by the Committee. The Director observed that he was preparing to issue such advice to CIA employees urging that they be forthright in their responses. The Director will clear this notice with the Staff Directors and their Counsels. He explained that his administrative jurisdiction extended to CIA employees only. [redacted] suggested to the Group that each Agency of the Community using Secrecy Agreements consider the Director's intent and be prepared to meet a similar request. He volunteered to clear the DCI Employee Notice with the Group with the view that it might be useful for other agencies and especially since it will meet the Committee Counsel's requirements. The Director also plans to send a letter to Senator Church pledging cooperation.

5. The organizational arrangements of the Ad Hoc Group was explained with the emphasis placed on responsiveness to the Congressional Committee. [redacted] will meet with Mr. Miller, Staff Director on 28 February to clarify material Senator Church has asked for on the following subjects:

- a. Community organization charts back to 1947 with names of people down to branch level.
- b. Intelligence entities, budgetary data over time.
- c. Legal authorities - classified and unclassified, legislative histories, etc.

6. Mr. Cary, CIA Legislative Counsel, reported on the status of the organization of the House of Representatives Select Committee and distributed draft copies of the House Resolution establishing the Committee, HR 138.

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7. Mr. Warner, CIA General Counsel, reported on the appointment of Mr. Laurence H. Silberman as Presidential Counsel to deal with the Presidential/Congressional interface on the matters under review and urged that both Ad Hoc members and the General Counsels of each USIB Agency be the corresponding focal point with Mr. Silberman. It was noted that DOD would be represented in this context by Messrs. Lattimer and Hoffman.

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8. [redacted] of the DCI Ad Hoc Staff distributed draft copies of the paper on "Ambiguities and the Law," and stated that he would be in contact with appropriate Intelligence Agency officials seeking comments and suggestions. (Code [redacted])

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9. [redacted] advised that the annexes currently before the Group would be forwarded to the Senate Committee early next week and urged that any final comments be provided the Executive Secretary.

[redacted]
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Executive Secretary

Attachments:

- (1) Attendees
- (2) Revised Membership List